

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...to do their work without being viewed as magicians. Don't let the disease, through anything we do, come to be viewed like people used to view and some still do, leprosy. And don't let it be handled on the level that some youngsters deal with how you become pregnant such as holding hands too long or what they call French kissing and things like that. Ignorance benefits nobody. Legislation enacted, based on ignorance, will help nobody in this area. I don't claim to know everything about the disease. I wish I did because there would be a cure for it just like that and there would be a way to prevent it in those who don't have it. But as a legislator, I hope we will be very, very cautious and this bill could be the vehicle to make...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...as Senator Wesely said, a first significant step.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The gentleman from North Platte, Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Mr. President, members of the body, I have stood here and listened to the debate with interest and, Senator Chambers, I want to let you know that many of the concerns you've expressed today also were expressed by members of the committee listening to the bill, LB 1012. A couple of things I wanted to say on this in regards to the committee's viewpoint on the bill, number one, it must be remembered, members of the body, that this bill is a first tentative step, a tentative step and I think we want to be careful if we start getting into the fear of AIDS and we begin offering a tremendous number of amendments to cover this case and that case and what about this and that, we're going to confuse what we're trying to accomplish here with this particular bill. I also want to state a couple of points. Senator Chambers is well aware, as I think members of the body are, that throughout the country there is a tremendous amount of miseducation on this particular topic. When you have a young boy, for example, who gets the AIDS virus through a transfusion and the community panics and firebombs the house forcing them to move because they're afraid just by being around the boy, that there may be an AIDS epidemic, we have a tremendous amount of miseducation and I think we want to be